



BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

115 Southampton Street, Boston, Mass. 02118

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THINK

INFORMATION ON SOLID FUEL BURNING STOVES

I. APPROVAL:

For your own protection some thought must be given by the purchaser before he invests his money in a stove. A variety of sizes and shapes are available to serve every individual need. Before installation, an application for use must be obtained from the Building Department. The stove should be approved by an acknowledged testing laboratory using criteria laid down by Underwriters Laboratory (UL) and/or the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

UL #1482 - Wood Burning Stoves
 737 - Free Standing Fireplaces
 127 - Factory Built Fireplaces
 103 - Chimneys

NFPA # 211 - Chimneys, Fireplaces & Vents
 89M - Clearances, Heat Producing Appliances

When purchasing the stove, there should be visible evidence of this approval attached to the unit in the form of a metal tag or decal noting the approval number.

II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- A. Metal Used in Construction - The stoves are manufactured generally from two types of metal. One is cast iron - the other is steel. This becomes a matter of choice. With proper use, both stoves will give long and good service. Care should be taken when first using the unit to follow the manufacturer's recommendation.
- B. Size and Shape - As noted above, there are many styles from which to select and some thought should be given before making your choice. You should determine exactly what service you want it to perform. The stoves are classified as follows.....
 - 1. Parlor stoves
 - 2. Kitchen stoves
 - 3. Pot-belly stoves
 - 4. Combination stoves
 - 5. Fireplace stoves
 - 6. Box stoves
 - 7. Free-standing fireplaces.
- C. Capacity of Fuel - Hours of Burning - Consideration must be given to the size of wood that is to be used in the stove and the duration of the fire, particularly if you intend the fire to last through the night.
- D. Thermostatic Controls - Some of the stoves come equipped with controls as a part of the unit. This, too, should be taken into consideration.
- E. Stability - This also must be considered when you purchase the stove - that it is constructed in a workmanship like manner, with particular emphasis on the legs and/or base.
- F. Other Items to be Considered - Draft controls, adequate air, build-up of creosote, blower attachments and stoves which have glass thermopanes.

III. LOCATION:

- A. Use - Where is the stove to be located and what area do you plan to heat. Are you going to heat more than one room or the entire house. Do you intend to heat water.
- B. Fireplace Installations - Care must be taken in a fireplace installation. Make sure that the proper flue inserts are used and that the hearth is substantial enough to support the stove.
- C. Installation Clearances - Distances from nearest combustible materials must be reviewed before setting up the stove.
- D. Protection - The stove must be protected from accidentally being moved from its base or by someone brushing against it and being burned.

IV. FUEL:

- A. Selection of Wood or Coal, Its availability and cost - With the abundance of wood in this general area, it is advised that some thought should go into the type of wood you intend to use. It is suffice to say that hard wood is the best. It has high heat content, easy to burn, easier to cut, no heavy smoke, throws the least amount of sparks and little creosote build-up. Storage and drying of the wood must also be considered.

V. CHIMNEY:

- A. Condition of the Flue Lining.
- B. Connection to a fireplace or in the cellar, or the use of metalbestos
- C. No more than one heating appliance connected to a flue.

VI. MAINTENANCE:

- A. Removal of ashes is probably the most important aspect to be considered as it is a common cause of fire. A metal receptacle must be used.
- B. The grates should be checked for proper placement.
- C. Stovepipes should be checked during the heating season for any creosote build-up. The stove should be allowed to run hot for a period every day to lessen the creosote build-up.
- D. It is also recommended that a spark arrester be placed on the top of the chimney to prevent sparks from flying out.

VII. FIRE PROTECTION:

- A. It is to your advantage that you have a fire extinguisher located near the stove for your protection. A pressurized water type is the best to have. If you suspect a chimney fire, CALL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY, cut off the air supply to the fire box, close the damper and evacuate the premises.

VIII. The following is a sample of tag or decal which must be attached to the stove for verification of approval.

SUPERIOR STOVE COMPANY, Inc.®

FLAME-VIEW®

MODEL **SS-2Sa** DATE TESTED **1/31/79**
FUEL APPROVED **WOOD OR COAL** LABEL SER. NO.



ARNOLD GREENE TESTING LABORATORIES, INC.
NATICK, MASS. 01760 STL-002

CLEARANCE TO COMBUSTIBLES

SIDE **36"** REAR **36"**

TEST STANDARD(s) **ANSI-UL737 UL1482**

RUSSO WOOD STOVE MFG. CORP.

MODEL **3SR** DATE TESTED **9/7/78**
FUEL APPROVED **WOOD** LABEL SER. NO.



ARNOLD GREENE TESTING LABORATORIES, INC.
NATICK, MASS. 01760 STL-002

CLEARANCE TO COMBUSTIBLES

SIDE **36"** REAR **30"**

TEST STANDARD(s) **ANSI-UL737 UL1482**

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